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Claims:

5 1. A system for controlling a television tuner comprising:

10 an on-screen television scheduling system separate from the television tuner configured to generate a display of television schedule information including listings of television programs in a guide format and receive a user selection of a displayed television program listing as a first channel selection command unrecognizable by the television tuner;

15 means coupled to the on-screen television scheduling system for converting the first channel selection command to a second channel selection command recognizable by the television tuner; and

20 a control signal means for transmitting the second channel selection command to the television tuner for causing the tuner to tune to the selected television program.

25 2. The system of claim 1, wherein the on-screen television scheduling system resides in a recording means.

3. The system of claim 1, wherein the television tuner resides in a cable decoder.

30 4. The system of claim 1 further comprising a memory storing a conversion code for converting the first channel selection command to the second channel selection command.

35 5. The system of claim 1 wherein the on-screen television scheduling system is configured to receive a

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desired activation time for the selected television program.

5 6. The system of claim 5, wherein the control signal means transmits the second channel selection command at the activation time.

10 7. The system of claim 5 further comprising means for supplying recording commands to a recording means at the activation time.

15 8. A method for controlling a television tuner comprising:

 invoking an on-screen television scheduling system separate from the television tuner to generate a display of television schedule information including listings of television programs in a guide format and receive a user selection of a displayed television program listing as a first channel selection command;

20 converting the first channel selection command to a second channel selection command recognizable by the television tuner;

25 transmitting the second channel selection command to the television tuner; and

 tuning to the selected television program.

30 9. The method of claim 8, wherein the on-screen television scheduling system resides in a recording means.

35 10. The method of claim 8, wherein the television tuner resides in a cable decoder.

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5 11. The method of claim 8 further comprising storing a
conversion code for converting the first channel s election
command to the second channel selection command.

10 12. The method of claim 8 further comprising receiving a
desired activation time for the selected television program.

15 13. The method of claim 12 further comprising
transmitting the second channel selection command at the
activation time.

20 14. The method of claim 12 further comprising supplying
recording commands to a recording means at the activation
time.

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